

REMARKS

This Amendment, submitted in response to the Office Action dated April 6, 2004, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 8/1 and 11-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as being anticipated by Maeda (previously of record). Claims 2, 3, 4/2, 4/3 and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Maeda in view of Kodama. Claims 5, 7 and 8/7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Maeda. Claims 9 and 10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being unpatentable over Maeda in view of Ohmori. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Applicant's invention relates to a camera having a printer feature. Detailed descriptions of the background and exemplary embodiment of the invention are set forth in the January 27, 2004 Amendment at pages 5-6. Applicant refers the Examiner to these descriptions. To reiterate the relevant features of Maeda, the reference relates to modular components that may become attached to a camera. A camera unit 22 includes a connecting portion 22a to connect the camera to a printer electrically and mechanically. The printer contains the recording media for printing images.

The Examiner continues to rely on the connector 22a for teaching the loading chamber for holding the recording materials in a position for allowing the printing section to print on the material. In the detailed action, the Examiner specifically identifies connector 22a as the loading chamber (page 2 detailed action) and then cites the same element 22a as the

connecting device provided in the loading device. Page 3. The record shows an improper double-counting of elements to support the rejection.

The Examiner's broad construction ignores claim recitations. The claimed loading chamber holds recording materials. The connector 22a does not hold recording materials, and the Examiner appears to concede that the connector 22a does not hold recording media, but that the connector connects to a printer, which in turn holds a printing media.

The Examiner's statement that the connector 22a provides mechanical and electrical connection but would suggest that there is no separately provided loading chamber and connection device provided in the load chamber. In the Examiner's own analysis, the elements are one and the same. Stated differently, because the entirety of the connector 22a is needed to provide proper mechanical connection to properly align the printer in both multiple dimensions (x, y, z), then there is no separately provided connection device as described by claim 1, as the Examiner apparently agrees. Therefore claim 1 and its dependent claims are patentable for these reasons. The remaining claims are patentable based on their dependency. The secondary references of Kodama and Ohmori do not make up for the deficiency of Maeda.

With further regard to claim 8, this claim specifies more particularly that materials are loaded into the loading chamber. To the extent that a recording medium may be placed inside a printer, the medium is not in any way in the loading chamber (22a as cited the Examiner). Therefore, claim 8 is patentable for this additional reason.

Claim 16 is added to describe the loading chamber more particularly.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 09/614,652

In view of the above, Applicant submits that claims 1-16 are in condition for allowance. Therefore it is respectfully requested that the subject application be passed to issue at the earliest possible time. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.


Respectfully submitted,

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